# SANTA CLAUS HOLDS LAST RUSH TO BUY TWO CELEBRATIONS

Presents Distributed to Employes of Department of Commerce Today.

POOR ARE REMEMBERED WITH CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Secretary Redfield Makes Address and Receives a Large Flag From the Clerks.

Santa Claus went around to the Department of Commerce about twelve hours ahead of schedule time, and held wo celebrations within an hour, and finished in time to let the employes cided if Cupid had closed the contract away on the hour Uncle Sam had fixed or merely started things rolling along for the closing of his workshop for matrimonial lines.

lights on it, in addition to the presents which were distributed to the employes. Following an address by Secretary Redfield, presents indicative of some hobby of the particular employe were distributed.

boyhood.

Merry Christmas was the salutation delivered by those who always want to be a little ahead of the other felsome hobby of the particular employe and mother started out to round up "Santa's pack."

were distributed.

In the effice of George Johannes, disbursing clerk of the department,
where celebrations similar to that of
the chief clerk's office have been held
in former years, the program was
changed, Instead of the small presents, the employes, at the suggestion
of Mr. Johannes, decided to turn the
money into baskets of food for poor
families in the neighborhood of 19th
street and Pennsylvania avenue, where
the Department of Commerce quarters
are located.

#### Baskets Filled With Food.

With the money collected, eight baswith a good, substantial Christmas dinner packed in it, were prepared and are now in the kitchens of the homes of the needy families. In each basket was packed a ten-pound ham, one-half a peck of potatoes, a marter of a peck of apples, six pounds of flour, one pound of butter, three-leaves of bread, two pounds of surar, one bag of salt, one quart of hominy, one pound of lard and one pound of coffee. And just as the baskets were leaving some candy was put in to make it seem more like Christmas.

The disbursing office had the cooperation of the churches in the vicinity in picking out the most needy families.

families.

But the clerks had their Christmas celebration, too. There was a tree, and the quarters were elaborately decorated. Secretary Redfield made an address to the employes of the office and other officials of the department.

#### Celebration at 11 O'Clock.

The celebration in the chief clerk's began at 11 o'clock. E. W. Libbey, monarch of Kallipolis Grotto, acted as Santa Claus. Clarence C. Welde-mann explained the object of the gathering. Secretary Redfield received a large silk flag, typifying his efforts in behalf of American industries. As-sistant Secretary Sweet also was pres-

ent.
To each present was attached a humorous verse, of which the following atout U. Grant Smith, private secretary to the Secretary, who received a Santa Claus outfit, was an example: "Fwas the night before Christmas,"

e other than Grandon U. Grant Smith.

### Secretary Credits Employes.

Efficient and courteous treatment given by the employes of the Department of Commerce to those who sought information has been recognized by information has been recognized by those who have found it necessary to call on the department, Secretary Redfield explained in his address. All of the thanks received, the Secretary told them, belonged to the employes.

He told the employes that during the year the biologists of the fish commission had discovered that the life of a fish could be told by the number of rings on the scales, in the same namner that the life of a tree could be told by the number of rings in the trunk. He urged the employes of the department so to improve their work

The employes of the service, made his appearance, amid a rousing cheer from the children. Santa Claus sang several songs for the children and then presented each with a toy, candies and fruit.

The committee in charge of the celebration consisted of G. G. Anderson, chairman; C. A. Kolb and A. F. Potter.

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trunk. He urged the employes of the department so to improve their work during the year that they would expand and their work would not show as one ring over the other.

The employes of the department, he said, are a happy family. They are human beings, and the department is not simply bricks and rooms and machinery. He congratulated the employes on their work of the year, and told them of three letters he had received—one from a member of Congress and two from business housestelling of the efficient and courteous treatment they had received at the hands of the officials and clerks.

### Addresses the Officials.

In the disbursing office, where about 200 officials had gathered, Secretary Redfield said he was glad to have the

Redfield said he was glad to have the opportunity to get away from the trivial things. If one stuck too close to matters trivial one was likely to get so close to the grindstone as to think that was all in life. It is a good thing to have a chance to get rid of the grindstone once in a while.

The work of December should not be a replica of the work of November, he said. If it is, no advance has been made and the business is running right in the same spot. It is the careless worker, he said, that holds America back, and he told those present they should always keep in mind the slogan, "Advance in America."

The work that is being done by the department, he went on, is being done well, and in a courteous manner. During the year great advances have been made by the department. There is more safety at sea and more respect for the law.

During the coming year, he said, forget the individual offices and get above the grindstone, and see what is going on. He said he wished he could speak to the employees in Alaska, the lone keeper in the lighthouse, or the men in the lonely lightships, for it takes character to do work like that.

CIETC EAD EVERYPARN

#### GIFTS FOR EVERYBODY IN TREASURER'S OFFICE

Santa Claus Takes Presents Off Tree and Gov. Burke Makes Felicitous Speech.

For every one of the hundred officials

and employes of the office of the chief clerk of the office of the treasurer of the United States—and on its rolls are the United States—and on its rolls are
the messengers, laborers and miscellaneous employes of the office of the
treasurer—and for Treasurer John
Burke. Assistant Treasurer George
Fort and Deputy Assistant Treasurer
Frank J. F. Thiel there was a Christmas present on the beautifully decorated Christmas tree displayed in the
Treasury building today.

Lee Pitchlynn, a clerk in the chief
clerk's office, was Santa Claus. He it
was who proposed the celebration, toek
charge of all the details, collected the
Christmas fund from fellow employes,
bought the presents and finally distributed them. Treasurer Burke and
Thief Clerk Warner both made happy
remarks pertinent to the occasion of
Yuletide and the particular celebration. The presents were distributed at
acce.

in their mad rush to exchange what they thought they wanted for what think they want.

they think they want.

"It took me ten minutes to wend my way through the crowd, reach the elevator and finally get to my department ready for the fray." said one shopgirl today as she talked to four people at one time, who stated in a chorus that "these things must be sent at once." They were told that the articles would go immediately, though at the time the store's trucks were tearing away loaded with delayed gifts.

Seventh, 9th and F streets are a mecca for the buyers, and the street venders are reaping a harvest. Their wares include anything from postal cards to mice who do gymnastic stunis.

#### And Cupid Wouldn't Tell.

Smiling lassies with the Christmasreceiving spirit steered sweethearts into jewelry stores as a last chance before Christmas. The smile was sunnier when they came out, and it was unde-

The quarters of the chief clerk's office were elaborately decorated with Christmas greens, in one corner was a Christmas tree with many vari-colored lights on it, in addition to the presents Every other block has a window with

## "SANTA" MAY STRIKE RAIN.

Warned by Weather Bureau to Take His Umbrella Along.

Old Santa Claus had better take his raincoat and umbrella when he starts on his rounds, as the weather bureau's dren. Amount needed, \$381. Closed. forecaster today predicted rainfall, beginning late tonight. With a compassion for those who failed to heed the 'shop early" warning, however, he has promised that the weather will remain good until late.

good until late.

To the undoubted disappointment of the boys and girls who are expecting Santa to drop sleds at their houses tonight, the "weather man" cannot see any snow for Washington in the immediate future. In some of the places throughout the east slight flurries of snow are anticipated and in others rain

rain.
High temperatures will continue in Washington, however, accompanied by easterly winds.

## SANTA AT FOREST SERVICE.

this morning, to attend the annual Christmas exercises and in a way pay tribute to the memory of "Uncle Harry Towers, the originator of the custom at the department.

Mr. Towers has been dead seven years, but he is not forgotten by the employee of the department or by many of their children, whom he greeted each year at the Christmas celebration. When the large curtain in front of the stage was thrown back promptly at 11 o'clock today a great tree, trimmed with trinkets, gilt and tinsel and packages of toys, oranges and candies, blazed forth in colored electric lights. The exercises opened with Albert F. Potter, assistant forester, making a brief address of welcome and introducing Henry S. Graves, United States forester. Mr. Graves spoke principally to the children.

Mr. Graves had hardly disappeared from the platform before Santa Claus, in the person of W. C. Stump, one of the employes of the service, made his appearance, amid a rousing cheer from the children. Santa Claus sang several songs for the children and then preof their children, whom he greeted each

Congressional Library Holidays. All divisions of the Library of Congress including the copyright office, are to close this afternoon and next Friday afternoon

OF CHARITY PLAN

OPPORTUNITY NO. 4-A QUESTION-WHAT SHALL BE THE ANSWERS A deserted wife and four small chil-

Previously acknowledged, \$301. Closed.

Mrs. F. C., \$2; Mrs. H. C. J., \$3: Doris and Ralph, \$1; office force superintendent of works, G. P. O., \$1; F. B. N., \$1; C. E. Hopkins, \$1; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; cash, \$2; R. K., \$10; J. L. F., \$1; W. C. R., \$5; W. V. K., \$5; H. B. B., \$5; C. B. H., \$10; W. D. H., \$10; Philadelphia Pa, \$1; P. M. \$5; P. D. delphia, Pa., \$1; P. A. W., \$5; E & Co., \$2.50; D. W. D., \$1; A. \$89.10. Total, \$364. Closed.

OPPORTUNITY NO. 5-CHEERFUL-NESS CONTAGIOUS. bildren. Amount needed, \$260.

With her husband incurably ill, in a hospital, this mother is working early and late to keep her four children with her, the youngest of whom is four years old. Five dollars a week, or \$260 a year, will keep the home together for a year.

Presents Gifts From Christmas Tree

to Children of Employes.

Practically all employes of the forest service gathered, with their children, in the large drafting room, or in the hallways leading to it, in the forest service building on F street between 9th and 10th streets northwest, at 11 o'clock this morning to attend the annual streets and the streets are the streets are the streets and the streets are the s

OPPORTUNITY NO. 6—A HANDI-CAPPED MOTHER, FIVE AMBI-TIOUS CHILDREN. needed, \$416. Closed.

Previously acknowledged, \$110.15; Mrs. F. C., \$2; M...G. G., \$5; office force superintendent of works, G. P. O., \$1; F. B. N., \$1; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; K. L. R., \$1; J. L. F., \$1; R. K. T., \$1; G. W. M., \$1; Philadelphia, Pa., \$1; Mrs. W. F. S., \$1; A. B. D., \$289.85. Total, \$416. Closed.

OPPORTUNITY NO. 8-MRS. WIGGS Old grandmother, two grandchildren 12 and 7 years. Amount needed, \$260.

Previously acknowledged, \$263.65; H. S. W., \$1. Total, \$264.65. Closed.

OPPORTUNITY NO. 8-YOUNG LAD WORKING SATURDAYS FOR to keep her family together. She had been desperate and faced what seemed BABY'S MILK. Bread-winner dead of tuberculosis, widow and six children. Amount need-

#### WRITING TO SANTA CLAUS, ADDRESS, "NORTH POLE."



No. 9, \$2.00; William P.
\$5; Mrs. Etnest Gichner, for No. 10, \$1;
Ernest Gichner, where most needed, \$2;
Cash, for No. 1, \$1; J. B., for No. 13, \$1;
R. C., for No. 3, \$3; F. H. R., for any,
\$2.50; Miss E. Stamforth, for No. 12, \$1;
E. M. P. B., for any, \$1; Cash, for No.
1, \$1; F. J. R., where most needed, \$2;
V. L., where most needed, \$2; A. V. S.,
for No. 9, \$1; M. A. H., for Nos. 6 and
10, \$2; W. E. S., for No. 1, \$1; Kindergartner, for Nos. 5 and 9, \$2; C. E. Malden, for any, \$5; G. E. C., for No. 12, \$1;
One Who Has Had Same Experience,
for No. 6, \$1; W. B. and W. G., for No.
14, \$2; C. B. C., for No. 5, \$1; A. C.
Christie, for No. 1, \$10; Cash, for No.
7, \$1; Miss J. E. P., for No. 7, \$1;
Brother Tom, for any, \$5; J. O. M., for
No. 10, \$2; M. F. W., for No. 10, \$1;
Ernest Dean and John Roberts, for No.
5, \$4; Mrs. E. L. L., for No. 9, \$20; Mrs.
E. L. L., for No. 7, \$5; Mrs. E. L. L., for
No. 12, \$10; T. M. Post, 50 cents to each,
\$7; Mrs. S. L. B., for No. 1, \$1; Mrs. E.
M. T., for any, \$1; E. A. B., for No. 13,
\$1; H. S., for Nos. 1 and 3, \$2. But old Santa will have nothing to do with those who won't obey their parood salut has secured the aid of an efficient corps of stenograp

SCHOOL CHILDREN OBSERVE CHRISTMAS.



Widow and three children. Amount

OPPORTUNITY NO. 12-A SONG OR A

A widow with four children under

This widow and her little brood of

CAPPED WITH BLINDNESS.

children, all under fourteen.

OPPORTUNITY NO. 14—COURAGE THROUGH ADVERSITY.

Widow, four small children. Amount

Two years ago this widow with four little children first knew what it was to have regular help in the struggle

to her the next and only step, putting

her children in an institution. Friends,

Previously acknowledged, \$135.90; Dr. L. M., \$2, pledged; no name, \$5; cash, \$1; office force superintendent of works, G. P. O., \$2; F. B. N., \$1; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; K. R. W., \$5; K. L. R., \$1; J. L. F., \$2; A. M. N., \$1; A. C. M., \$1; B. W. M., \$1. Total, \$158.90. Still needed, \$153.10.

needed, \$153.10.

Undesignated—Previously acknowledged, \$147.50; M. W. S., 50 cents; E. A. C., \$2; C. C. G., \$50; cash, any, \$2; R. P. W., \$5; cash, \$1; W. H. B., 1r., and E. A. B., \$2; M. B., \$2; K. B. D., \$5; cash, \$1; cash, \$1; vivian G. Edwards, \$3; twenty-eight anonymous coin cards, \$9.85. Total, \$231.85.

Total requirements......\$4,782.00

Contributions have been received by The Star since the latest acknowledg-

E. H. H., for opportunity No. 5, \$1; H. M. F., to the one which has received

the least, \$1; S. P. D., for any, \$2; How-

the least, \$1, S. P. D., for any, \$2, and ardine T. Robinson, for any, \$1; employes of United States geological survey, for all, \$23.50; F. W. H., for No. 8, \$1; O. W. Gleason, for No. 1, \$5; cash, for any, \$1; E. W. A., for Noa. 2, 3, 4, \$3; R. C. McNoel, for No. 3, \$1; L. N., \$2, \$2; I. V. H., for No. 2, \$1;

\$3; R. C. McNoel, 107 No. 2, \$1; for No. 13, \$2; L. V. H., for No. 2, \$1; J. H. S., for Nos. 1, 13, \$2; J. W., for No. 5, \$1; H. M. F., for any, \$5; E. C., for No. 9 or 10, \$1; Ruth P. Grosner, for No. 1, \$2.59; Ruth P. Grosner, for No. 2, \$1; Rut

No. 9, \$2.50; William H. D., for No. 7.

\$5; Mrs. Ernest Gichner, for No. 10, \$1

Received by The Star.

nent as follows:

through the Christmas Opportunities,

lost her sight by accident.

needed, \$620.

eeded, \$312.

CRY-WHICH?

LOSIS.

eded, \$312. Closed.

# PAY ROLL OF \$10,000,000 Previously acknowledged, \$1:39.65; Polly C., \$5; H. S. W., \$1; Mrs. F. C., \$2; Mrs. E. R., \$2; Mrs. M. H., \$2; office force superintendent of works. G. P. O., \$2; M. B. N., \$1; H. S. M., \$5; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; L. E. S., \$1; J. L. F., \$2; G., \$100; Mrs. W. F. D., \$3; G. W. M., \$1; Chain and Sprocket Club, \$50. Total, \$317.65. Closed.

Christmas Festivities Begin Tonight in the Plants and

OPPORTUNITY NO. 11-HEROINES AT Previously acknowledged. \$69.15; J. J. E., \$10; Mrs. F. C., \$1; Mr. L. J. E., \$2; any, \$3; office force superintendent of works, G. P. O., \$2; F. B. N., \$1; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; L. W. W., \$5; K. J. B. burgh and the city board of education will distribute some \$700,000. All rail-roads centering here arranged to have their semi-monthly pay day this week, and merchants and office managers expected to make their distribution this afternoon.

Western Trade Increasing.

This unusually large pay roll is the seaboard has allowed manufacturers to turn their attention to western trade,

OPPORTUNITY NO. S-ARE HANDI-GETS CHEST OF SILVER.

Blind mother, partly blind father, six children, all under fourteen. Amount Thomas Grant Remembered by th Chamber of Commerce.

Against heavy odds, but gamely, the father and mother are trying to keep their home together and educate their Thomas Grant, secretary of the Cham of Commerce, was the recipient today of a chest of silver, a Christmas and father is partly blind and the mother wedding gift from the board of direc ors of the organization. The presentation was made by P. T. Moran, president of the chamber, at a special meeting of the directorate at noon today. Mr. Grant was married several weeks ago and recently returned from his wedding trip. G., \$2; R. R. McK., \$1. Total. \$186.90. Still needed, \$338.10.

four children under fourteen years of age are happy in their small cottage home. Baby W. is a prize baby and Margie, the oldest girl, is an honor pupil at school. The other two children are just average, normal youngsters. Sen golders a week, or \$520 a year, is needed to assure its safety.

Previously acknowledged, \$95.55. old.

# of business at the city post office. Cancellations yesterday of first-class mail cellations yesterday of first-class mail at the post office were 794,605 pieces. as against 628,000 pieces the same day last year. Of this more than half was for delivery in the city. Clerks at the post office yesterday made up and sent out 4,993 sacks of mail, as against 3,881 the same day a year ago. The number of incoming sacks yesterday was 3,279, against 2,947 a year ago yesterday. The number of pouches coming in on yesterday's trains was 448, against 393 pouches a year ago yesterday.

Factories.

PITTSBURGH, December 24.—Distribution of the Christmas pay roll in the Pittsburgh industrial district will be completed before nightfall, and when the last envelope has been handed out no less than \$10,000,000 will be in the hands of wage workers and salaried men. according to the estimates of \$260 a year, is needed.

Previously acknowledged. \$69.15; J. J. E. \$10 Mrs. F. C. \$1; Mr. L. J. E. \$2; any, \$3; office force superintendent of works of \$20 and \$30 and \$30 and the city of Pittsburgh industrial district will be completed before nightfall, and when the last envelope has been handed out no less than \$10,000,000 will be in the hands of wage workers and salaried men. according to the estimates of bankers. All the mills, mines and factories have paid their men during the week, or will pay them today, while \$40 and \$40

motor vehicles making the trips be-tween the post office and the contract result of great activity in the indus- stations at drug stores, etc., around the ries of the district, practically all of city. The increased service has enabled which are in operation full time, with us to keep close up with the work this year, and the result is that the city post office is in better condition than embargo placed on shipments to the it has ever been before. Largely in-creased room for handling the incom-ing and outgoing mail and added fa-cilities for rapid working of all mails are responsible for improved condi-

Previously acknowledged, \$95.65; old Union soldier, \$1; Mrs. F. C., \$3; J. C. J., \$2; M. H. J., \$3; N. G. G., \$5; office force superintendent of works, G. P. O., \$2; F. B. N., \$1; employes Barber & Ross, \$1; F. F. S., \$1; K. L. R., \$1; J. L. F., \$2; J. S. F., \$5; G. W. N., \$1; Mrs. M. F. V., \$2; Mrs. W. F. S., 50 cents; M. A. N., \$1; Total, \$102.15. Still needed, \$417.85.

# are responsible for improved conditions. "If we were still located in the old building at 11th and Pennsylvania avenue," the postmaster concluded, "we would be out on the roof by this time. It would be utterly impossible to handle expeditiously the vastly increased volume of mail with the facilities and the room afforded in the old building, even with a force increased to the largest possible number of men and working overtime." BERLIN CLAIMS FULL SUCCESS IN VOSGES

MAILS ARE PROMP

DESPITE YULE RUSH

Packages, as Well as First-

Class Matter, Delivered

on Time.

With a greatly increased volume o

provided the mail, whatever it may be eaches this office today or tonight."

Local Office Busier Than Ever.

this year over the same dates a yea ago has been maintained right along.

Has Forty Machines and Wagons.

"The city post office has forty ma-

chines and wagons operating to and

from the various substations, six of the

Comparisons of this year's figures with those of last year, the postmaster aid, indicated the increased volume

BERLIN, December 24 .- The Gerposition on Hartmans-Weilerkopf in the Vosges region recently taken by the French, it was officially announced by army headquarters today. The French have been driven out of the trenches they still occupied on the northern slope of the peak, it is de-



## We Wish You A Merry Christmas

Today we look back over a year of unparalleled progress and success and it is fitting that we should thank our loyal and faithful friends-the great shopping public of Washington-who have made this store their headquarters.

That this be the merriest and happiest Christmas you have ever known is the earnest wish of



### Store Closed Tomorrow---Christmas Day

NEW STORE HOURS: Beginning Monday, December 27, the store will open at 8:45 a.m. and close at 5:30 p.m. See Sunday Post, Star and Times for After-Christmas Re-Complaint bureau will be open until 12 o'clock tomor-

row to adjust complaints.



Not because it is an honored custom, but because of the sincerity of our appreciation, we take this opportunity to thank you for the part you have played in our business prosperity the past twelve months, and we wish you all a good old Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Acme Auto Top Company Norfolk, Va.

Washington, D. C. 1421 Irving St.

519 Granby St.

FOR CHILDREN OF THE POST.

Christmas Celebration to Be Held at Washington Barracks.

ered, will have a Christmas celebra tion this afternoon, beginning at it at the post exchange building, where the celebration is to be held, and music and recitations. Santa Claus also will be present to give presents to the chilren of the post. Following is the

March, "Stars and Stripes," band; song, "America," band and audience; selection, "Around the Christmas Tree," band; recitation, "A Letter to Santa Claus," William McNally; recitation, Claus," William McNally; recitation,
"The Day Before Christmas," Agda
Pierson; patrol. "Dublin Bay," band;
recitation, "A Brave Little Tree," Sidney Wooten; recitation, "When Santa
Comes to Our Town," Phyllis Bangert;
waltz, "Rosalle." band; reading, "The
Night Before Christmas," Will Point;
Santa Claus, and "The Star Spangled
Banner," band.
The music will be by the United
States Engineers' Band. over anything ever known before in the history of the Washington post office, Postmaster Chance today reported that all mail, packages as well as first-class mail, is being handled rapidly and that the benches are practical-"In spite of the unusual rush, and the inevitable congestion al-

ways to be expected on the day before Christmas," Mr. Chance said today, Confessing she had falsely accused Daniel Byas, colored, of the murder of William Smith, Mary Elliott, colored, eighteen, told a coroner's jury at Balthe mail is being handled rapidly, nd all mail coming in today will be distributed right on the dot, so that obody will have reason to complain of failure to receive Christmas mail

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES ARE GIVEN HALF HOLIDAY

Washington barracks, where the Christmas Vacation of Twa Days Be-United States Engineer Corps is quargins at Noon in the Departments.

> Governmental machinery stopped Christmas day and Sunday. closed all day. These branches, the government printing office and the bureau of engraving and printing, however, will be open all of New Year eve while the other departments will close at noon, as they did today.

Many of the departments already are working at half speed, because the employes wanted to get back home for he Christmas holidays.

The Smithsonian Institution employed were released at 12 o'clock, but the exhibition halls will be kept open until

hibition halls will be kept open until
4:30 o'clock.

The Washington navy yard stopped
its work at noon also. The night ship
of employes came to work at 4 o'clock
yesterday and worked until 4 this
morning, completing a day and a half,
the regular 12 to 8 force began at 4
o'clock today and worked until 8, while
the regular day men came on at 8 and
worked until noon.

# Grawboolur & Lothrop

Extend to All The Greetings of the Season.

CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY.

EGINNING Monday, December 27, and continuing until further notice, our daily hours of business will be 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

## Use Your Whole House this Winter

DON'T let cold weather A Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater will bring glowing warmth and cheer to every room of the house. With the Perfection Heater near, you can dress in comfort, clean in comfort, set the table in comfort, and live in comfort generally.

The Perfection gives 10 hours of glowing warmth on one gallon of oil. Clean-quick-convenient.

Use Aladdin Security Oil or Diamond White Oil to obtain best results in Oil Stoves, Lamps and Heaters.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (New Jersey) BALTIMORE

Washington, D. C. Norfolk, Va. Richmond, Va. Look for the Tri-

angle Trademark. In many styles and sizes at hardware and general stores everywhere.

